

The D. M. Read Co.

Established 1857

All Toys in the Basement Less 25 Per Cent.



A Clearance Sale

Specially reduced prices on all

Coats Suits Dresses Furs

All this season's models, best quality materials perfectly tailored and with a touch of distinction

Special Prices on Furs

Muffs

Raccoon Muffs, formerly	\$16.50	now	\$13.50
	\$20.00		\$16.50
	\$25.00		\$20.00
Hudson Seal,	\$25.00		\$20.00
	\$37.50		\$27.50
Natural Skunk,	\$25.00		\$20.00
	\$37.50		\$27.50
	\$45.00		\$35.00
Black Fox,	\$45.00		\$35.00
	\$55.00		\$42.50
Black Skunk,	\$25.00		\$20.00

Scarves to match muffs at special prices.

Second floor.

Coats

Kersey, Velour and Tweed Mixtures, strong and durable materials for everyday wear. Some of these coats are made in sports styles which make them especially adapted for school wear. Regularly priced at \$20.00,

\$10.50

Coats of Velour, the most popular of all materials, in desirable colors, a rich dark brown, navy blue and Oxford, former prices \$25.00 and \$27.50,

\$18.75

Esquimette Plush Coats, also Cheviots and Velours, dressy models, some of them fur-trimmed, very attractive looking in style and finish. Regularly priced up to \$45.00,

\$27.50

Coats trimmed with Hudson Seal and Raccoon, lined throughout. These coats could not be duplicated elsewhere at this price,

\$37.50 very special

No credits, no exchanges or telephone calls.

Suits

Homespun, Serge and Gabardine are the materials used in making these attractive suits. They are most suitable for business wear, the colors being black, navy blue, taupe and brown. Former prices \$27.50 and \$30.00,

\$18.75

Sizes 16 years for misses to 52 for women.

Suits of Tricotine, Serge and Broadcloth, stylish and dressy looking models, nicely finished and most desirable in every way. Brown, tan, taupe, navy blue and black. Regular prices \$37.50 and \$45.00,

Offered at \$27.50

Suits of Broadcloth, finest quality, many styles to select from, but only one model of each. These suits are trimmed with Hudson Seal and are in effective colors, brown, taupe, mulberry, navy blue and black. Former prices up to \$55.00,

\$37.50

It would be well to take advantage of this unusual offer.

Imported Models, individual and distinctive looking, have to be seen to be appreciated. Formerly priced to \$125.00,

\$85.00 to close out

Evening Wraps, unique designs, all models offered at One-half price

Millinery

Tempting offerings to those who need an extra hat

Perhaps you have not bought a new hat this season. If so then you are lucky if you take advantage of this clearance, for every woman who sees you will think, "she must have paid at least \$10.00 for it, no doubt \$15.00"—and you will have paid

\$3.00

If you select from this group. All ready now.

Second floor.

Dresses

Afternoon and Evening Frocks, in tried and true materials, Crepe de Chines, Georgettes, Satins and combinations of Satin and Georgette. Many of these dresses are embroidered, others beaded, which give them a most artistic and French appearance sure to please any woman looking for the unusual. All wanted colors in sizes from 16 years to 52 for women.

Dresses that were \$65.00 now \$45.00

\$50.00 \$37.50

\$35.00 \$25.00

\$25.00 \$17.50

\$18.00 \$10.50

Dress Skirts

Serge Skirts, plain or plaided effects, Corduroys and a few in Taffeta silk. These skirts are offered for quick selling at

\$5.00



A Wonderful Offering In Shoes.

Women's Havana Brown Kid Boots, 9-inch lace model, with welted soles and "Louis" heels of leather.

\$6.95.

Special for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. We do not expect them to last longer.

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HOOVER TELLS HIS VIEWS ON LACK OF SUGAR

Washington, Dec. 26.—"By authorization of the President" and over the heads of Senator Reed and his colleagues on the Senate Committee on Manufactures, which is inquiring into the handling of sugar in this country, Herbert C. Hoover, Federal Food Administrator, made public yesterday his reply to the attacks on his official course made at the committee's hearings.

He emphasized the fact that to reduce the supply sent to the Allies would imperil our chances of winning the war. He urged every one here to reduce still further the consumption of sugar, and predicts it will be cheaper next year than it is today. Mr. Hoover made several attempts to testify before the Committee on Manufactures after Claus A. Spreckle and others had criticized the Food Administration for its handling of the sugar situation. But each time he was denied a hearing.

Saturday last was set for the Hoover hearing, but when the committee met, Senator Reed, chairman of the committee, announced he would hear a number of the best sugar people who had come from the West and were anxious to return to their homes before Christmas. He added that Mr. Hoover could make his appearance Friday. This displeased the Food Administration officials, and Mr. Hoover offered his statement for the record, but after an executive session Senator Reed declared it would not be received until Mr. Hoover appeared in person.

Mr. Hoover took the matter up with the President, explaining to him that the Food Administration was being persecuted by the committee and asked his advice about making public the statement. The President took the situation in hand and the statement was given out by the Committee on Public Information.

In the opinion of officials the President's action is not so much of a slap at the committee as an expression of his personal opinion that the activities of the Food Administration in relation to the sugar question are deserving of the sympathetic understanding of the entire country. The President's motive is understood to be a belief that the Food Administration has done everything humanly possible to bring about equitable and reasonable conditions in the domestic sugar market.

In beginning Mr. Hoover's statement presents the world sugar situation as it existed prior to the European war, when the Allies produced much of their own supplies and purchased the remainder from Germany. Before the war they took only 300,000 tons annually from the Western Hemisphere. This year they have taken 1,400,000 tons.

Even with these shipments, it is pointed out, the supply in England and France has been inadequate. The consumption in England has been reduced to 24 pounds a year for each person and in France to 14 pounds, against a consumption of 55 pounds for each person here.

Saying he is not certain there is a shortage of sugar in this country, Mr. Hoover says that if any does exist, it is because the United States appreciated the duty of sending large quantities to the Allies.

He pointed out, the supply in England and France has been inadequate. The consumption in England has been reduced to 24 pounds a year for each person and in France to 14 pounds, against a consumption of 55 pounds for each person here.

It says that without the fixing of prices by agreement sugar would be selling for 25 or 30 cents a pound here, and more than \$200,000,000 probably would have been taken from the American people by this time. The regulations for the sale of sugar were voluntary, as the Food Administration has no authority to impose them, the statement adds.

HOLLY—XMAS TREES WREATHS JOHN RECK & SON

A PLATINUM "FAKE" IN OREGON

The present shortage of platinum and the consequent greatly increased price of the metal bid fair to result in a considerable increase in the domestic production of platinum during the coming year. At the same time, while legitimate miners are increasing their production and to some extent relieving the country's shortage, other persons are using the interest aroused by the present nation-wide search for the metal to make extravagant claims for utterly worthless deposits, and some honest prospectors are led by false assays, made by inefficient or venal assayers, to believe mistakenly that they have valuable platinum deposits. Reports of platinum in some mythical combination—"volatile platinum" or "colloidal platinum"—should be regarded as sufficient evidence of the incompetence or dishonesty of the assayer.

During the season of 1917 the geologists of the United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, spent much time in visiting platinum deposits that proved to be worthless. A notable example is seen in the supposed platiniferous sands of the Deschutes River, near Terrebonne, Oreg., which were examined by Mr. H. G. Ferguson in October, 1917. Claims have been staked for several miles along Deschutes and Crooked rivers, and as certain volcanic sands along these rivers had been said to contain large percentages of gold and rare metals, particularly metals of the platinum group, Mr. Ferguson visited the localities at which the sands were obtained and took samples for test and analysis.

The material collected, which is exposed in the canyon of the Deschutes River north of Low Bridge in sec. 15, T. 14 S., R. 12 E., consists of loosely cemented dark volcanic sand and conglomerate interbedded with basalt and volcanic tuff. The black basaltic sand is supposed to have the richest content of gold and platinum, but neither in panning the material in the field nor in the chemical tests made by the Geological Survey could any trace of platinum or other metals of the platinum group be found. Neither was any gold found in the concentrates, and it is concluded that material of this type is very unlikely to contain workable amounts of gold.

In conclusion, the Geological Survey desires to warn prospectors and investors against accepting at their face value any statements in regard to platinum-bearing ores and sands that do not show native platinum when panned. Such material should always be sent to assayers or whose reputation is above reproach.

Mayer-elect Hyman has appointed as new dock department head Representative Murray Hulbert.

The trustees of the First Baptist church of Mount Vernon, N. Y., started a coal conservation movement.

Gov. Whitman is reported to have decided to name Walter E. Warren, Independent Democrat, to succeed John F. Hyman as county judge in Kings.